United States Bankruptcy Court Southern District of Texas

ENTERED

January 20, 2023 Nathan Ochsner, Clerk

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

In re:	§ Chapter 11
	§
ALEXANDER E. JONES	§ Case No. 22-33553
	§
Debtor.	§
	Š

ORDER GRANTING APPLICATION FOR ENTRY OF AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EMPLOYMENT OF RACHEL KENNERLY, LLC AS TAX ACCOUNTANT FOR DEBTOR EFFECTIVE AS OF THE PETITION DATE

ON THIS DATE this Court considered the application (the "Application") of Alexander E. Jones (the "<u>Debtor</u>") in the above-captioned case for the entry of an order authorizing Debtor to retain and employ Rachel Kennerly, LLC ("Kennerly") as his tax accountant effective as of the Petition Date, pursuant to Sections 327(a) of Title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"), Rule 2014 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedures (the "Bankruptcy Rules") and Local Rule 2014-1 of the Local Bankruptcy Rules for the Southern District of Texas (each a "LBR"). Upon review of the Application and the Declaration of Rachel Kennerly (the "Kennerly Declaration"), the Court finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334; that the Application is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b); that the venue of this proceeding and the Application in this district is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; that based on the representations made in the Application and in the Kennerly Declaration, Kennerly's employment is in the best interests of the Debtor and Kennerly (a) is a "disinterested person" within the meaning of Section 101(14) of the Bankruptcy Code, and (b) Kennerly does not represent or hold an interest adverse to the Debtor; that the Debtor provided adequate and appropriate notice of the Application under the circumstances and that no other or further notice is required; and that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Application established just cause for the relief granted in this Order.

Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. The Application is **GRANTED** to the extent set forth herein.
- 2. Debtor is authorized to retain and employ Kennerly as his tax accountant, effective as of the Petition Date.
- 3. Kennerly shall apply for compensation for professional services rendered and reimbursement of expenses incurred in connection with this chapter 11 case in compliance with Sections 330 and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code and applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Rules, Local Rules, and any other applicable procedures and orders of the Court. To the extent applicable, Kennerly shall also make a reasonable effort to comply with the U.S. Trustee's requests for information and additional disclosures in connection with interim and final fee applications to be filed by Kennerly in this chapter 11 case.
- 4. To the extent that Kennerly uses the services of contract employees in this case, Kennerly (i) shall pass-through the cost of such contract employees to Debtor at the same rate that Kennerly pays the contract employees; (ii) shall seek reimbursement for actual out-of-pocket expenses only; and (iii) shall ensure that the contract employees are subject to conflict checks and disclosures in accordance with the requirements of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rules.
- 5. Prior to any increase in Kennerly's rates for any individual employed by Kennerly and providing services in the Case, Kennerly shall file a supplemental declaration with the Court and provide ten business days' notice to Debtor, the United States Trustee, Counsel for the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors, Counsel to the Connecticut Plaintiffs, and Counsel to the Texas Plaintiffs.¹ The supplemental declaration shall explain the basis for the requested rate

¹ As such Notice Parties are defined in the *Order Granting Motion for Entry of an Order Establishing Procedures* for Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses for Chapter 11 Professionals.

increases in accordance with Bankruptcy Code section 330(a)(3)(F) and state whether Debtor has consented to the rate increase. The U.S. Trustee retains all rights to object to any rate increase on all grounds, including the reasonableness standard set forth in Bankruptcy Code section 330, and the Court retains the right to review any rate increase pursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 330.

- 6. Kennerly shall use its reasonable efforts to avoid any duplication of services provided by any of Debtor's other retained professionals in this chapter 11 case.
- 7. To the extent the Application, Kennerly Declaration, or any engagement letter between Debtor and Kennerly is inconsistent with this Order, the terms of this Order shall govern during the pendency of this chapter 11 case.
- 8. At the conclusion of this case or of Kennerly's engagement by Debtor during this case, if the amount of any retainer held by Kennerly is in excess of the amount of Kennerly's outstanding and Court-approved fees, expenses, and costs, Kennerly will return the amount by which any such retainer exceeds such Court-approved approved fees, expenses, and costs to Debtor.
- 9. Debtor and Kennerly are each authorized to take all actions necessary to effectuate the relief granted pursuant to the Order.
- 10. Notice of the Application provided by Debtor is deemed to be good and sufficient notice of the Application, and the requirements of the Local Rules are satisfied by the contents of the Application.
- 11. Notwithstanding any Bankruptcy Rule to the contrary, the terms and conditions of this Order shall be immediately effective and enforceable upon its entry.

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12. The Court retains jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or related to the implementation of this Order.

Signed: January 20, 2023

Christopher Lopez

United States Bankruptcy Judge

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United States Bankruptcy Court Southern District of Texas

In re: Case No. 22-33553-cml

Alexander E. Jones Chapter 11

Official Committee Of Unsecured Creditor

Debtors

CERTIFICATE OF NOTICE

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Date Rcvd: Jan 20, 2023 Form ID: pdf002 Total Noticed: 11

The following symbols are used throughout this certificate:

Symbol Definition

+ Addresses marked '+' were corrected by inserting the ZIP, adding the last four digits to complete the zip +4, or replacing an incorrect ZIP. USPS

regulations require that automation-compatible mail display the correct ZIP.

Addresses marked '#' were identified by the USPS National Change of Address system as requiring an update. While the notice was still deliverable,

the notice recipient was advised to update its address with the court immediately.

Notice by first class mail was sent to the following persons/entities by the Bankruptcy Noticing Center on Jan 22, 2023:

Recip ID db		Recipient Name and Address Alexander E. Jones, c/o 2525 McKinnon Street, Suite 425, Dallas, TX 75201
cr	+	Francine Wheeler, Cain & Skarnulis PLLC, Ryan E. Chapple, 303 Colorado Street, Suite 2850 Austin, TX 78701-4653
cr	+	Free Speech Systems, LLC, Free Speech Systems, LLC, c/o Patrick Magill, 3019 Alvin Devane Blvd., Ste 300 Austin,, TX 78741-7417
cr	#+	Leonard Pozner, c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP, Attention: Avi Moshenberg, 1001 Fannin Street, Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002-6774
cr	#+	Marcel Fontaine, c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP, Attention: Avi Moshenberg, 1001 Fannin, Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002-6774
cr	#+	Neil Heslin, c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP, Attention: Avi Moshenberg, 1001 Fannin Street, Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002-6774
crcm	+	Official Committee Of Unsecured Creditors, c/o Marty L. Brimmage, Jr., Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP, 2300 N. Field Street, Suite 1800, Dallas, TX 75201-4675
cr	#+	Scarlett Lewis, c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP, Attention: Avi Moshenberg, 1001 Fannin Street, Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002-6774
cr	+	Travis County, c/o Jason A. Starks, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, TX 78767-1748
cr	#+	Veronique De La Rosa, c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP, Attention: Avi Moshenberg, 1001 Fannin Street, Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002-6774

TOTAL: 10

Notice by electronic transmission was sent to the following persons/entities by the Bankruptcy Noticing Center.

Electronic transmission includes sending notices via email (Email/text and Email/PDF), and electronic data interchange (EDI). Electronic transmission is in Eastern Standard Time.

Ketip iD	Notice Type. Email Address	Date/Time	Recipient Name and Address
cr	Email/Text: creditcardbkcorrespondence@bofa.com		
	•	Jan 20 2023 20:11:00	Bank of America N.A., P.O. BOX 31785, Tampa, FL 33631-3785
			FL 33031-3763

Doto/Time

Desirient Name and Address

TOTAL: 1

Dooin ID

BYPASSED RECIPIENTS

The following addresses were not sent this bankruptcy notice due to an undeliverable address, *duplicate of an address listed above, *P duplicate of a preferred address, or ## out of date forwarding orders with USPS.

Recip ID aty	Bypass Reason	Name and Address Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
cr		Carlee Soto Parisi
cr		Carlos M Soto
cr		David Wheeler
cr		Donna Soto
cr		Ian Hockley
cr		Jacqueline Barden
cr		Jennifer Hensel
cr		Jillian Soto-Marino
cr		Mark Barden
cr		Nicole Hockley
cr		Robert Parker
cr		William Aldenberg
cr		William Sherlach

Notice Type: Empil Address

TOTAL: 14 Undeliverable, 0 Duplicate, 0 Out of date forwarding address

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NOTICE CERTIFICATION

I, Gustava Winters, declare under the penalty of perjury that I have sent the attached document to the above listed entities in the manner shown, and prepared the Certificate of Notice and that it is true and correct to the best of my information and belief.

Meeting of Creditor Notices only (Official Form 309): Pursuant to Fed .R. Bank. P.2002(a)(1), a notice containing the complete Social Security Number (SSN) of the debtor(s) was furnished to all parties listed. This official court copy contains the redacted SSN as required by the bankruptcy rules and the Judiciary's privacy policies.

Date: Jan 22, 2023	Signature:	/s/Gustava Winters	

CM/ECF NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

The following persons/entities were sent notice through the court's CM/ECF electronic mail (Email) system on January 20, 2023 at the address(es) listed below:

below:	
Name	Email Address
Avi Moshenberg	on behalf of Creditor Veronique De La Rosa avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com patricia.flores@mhllp.com
Avi Moshenberg	on behalf of Creditor Neil Heslin avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com patricia.flores@mhllp.com
Avi Moshenberg	on behalf of Creditor Scarlett Lewis avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com patricia.flores@mhllp.com
Avi Moshenberg	on behalf of Creditor Leonard Pozner avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com patricia.flores@mhllp.com
Avi Moshenberg	on behalf of Creditor Marcel Fontaine avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com patricia.flores@mhllp.com
Christina Walton Stephenson	on behalf of Debtor Alexander E. Jones Crissie.Stephenson@crowedunlevy.com elisa.weaver@crowedunlevy.com;ecf@crowedunlevy.com
Elizabeth Carol Freeman	on behalf of Interested Party Melissa A Haselden liz@lizfreemanlaw.com kgradney@jw.com;dtrevino@jw.com;jpupo@jw.com;JacksonWalkerLLP@jubileebk.net
Ha Minh Nguyen	on behalf of U.S. Trustee US Trustee ha.nguyen@usdoj.gov
Jarrod B. Martin	on behalf of Creditor Marcel Fontaine jarrod.martin@chamberlainlaw.com Lara.Coleman@chamberlainlaw.com;atty_jmartin@bluestylus.com;ginger.davis@chamberlainlaw.com
Jarrod B. Martin	on behalf of Creditor Scarlett Lewis jarrod.martin@chamberlainlaw.com Lara.Coleman@chamberlainlaw.com;atty_jmartin@bluestylus.com;ginger.davis@chamberlainlaw.com
Jarrod B. Martin	on behalf of Creditor Neil Heslin jarrod.martin@chamberlainlaw.com Lara.Coleman@chamberlainlaw.com;atty_jmartin@bluestylus.com;ginger.davis@chamberlainlaw.com
Jarrod B. Martin	on behalf of Creditor Leonard Pozner jarrod.martin@chamberlainlaw.com Lara.Coleman@chamberlainlaw.com;atty_jmartin@bluestylus.com;ginger.davis@chamberlainlaw.com
Jarrod B. Martin	on behalf of Creditor Veronique De La Rosa jarrod.martin@chamberlainlaw.com Lara.Coleman@chamberlainlaw.com;atty_jmartin@bluestylus.com;ginger.davis@chamberlainlaw.com
Jason Starks	on behalf of Creditor Travis County bkecf@traviscountytx.gov
Jayson B. Ruff	on behalf of U.S. Trustee US Trustee jayson.b.ruff@usdoj.gov
Manta I Daimana	

on behalf of Creditor Jennifer Hensel mbrimmage@akingump.com

Marty L Brimmage

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TOTAL: 80